

**REMARKS**

By the foregoing amendment, Claims 21, 24, and 30-32 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, Claims 9, 11, 14, 15, 22, 23, 25, and 27-29 have been amended, and new Claims 33-35 added. Thus, Claims 2, 6, 9, 11-20, 22, 23, 25-29, and 33-35 are currently pending in the application.

Examiners Marks and O'Neill are respectfully thanked for taking the time to meet with the Applicant's representative on April 22, 2003. During the interview, the Examiners and Applicant's representative discussed U.S. Patent No. 6,450,500 to Miller and U.S. Patent No. 6,264,200 to Smith, the newly added claims submitted in the Amendment filed April 18, 2003, as well as possible new claims. The Examiners and Applicant's representative agreed that Applicant would submit new independent claims that included various features discussed, in order to further define the invention over the cited prior art. The Examiners indicated that such newly added claims would receive favorable consideration, although further search and consideration would be required.

In the Office Action of November 18, 2002, the Examiner rejected Claims 1-6, 9, 10-13, and 15-18 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,632,485 to Woodland, et al. Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), the Examiner rejected Claim 14 as being unpatentable over Woodland in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,341,778 to Lee, rejected Claims 7 and 8 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,450,500 to Miller in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,264,200 to Smith, and rejected Claims 19 and 20 as being unpatentable over Woodland in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,270,404 to Sines, et al. It is noted that Claims 1, 3-

5, 7, 8, and 10 have been canceled, and Claims 2, 6, 9, 11, 13, 14 and 15 have been amended. To the extent that any of the rejections remain applicable to the claims currently pending, Applicant hereby traverses the rejections, as follows.

It is submitted that none of Woodland, Lee, Miller, Smith, or Sines, nor the combination thereof, disclose or suggest at least the feature of determining whether the player wins the auxiliary game, if the dealer hand is non-breaking, regardless of whether the player won the Blackjack game, the determination including determining whether the dealer hand has a characteristic selected from a group consisting of at least two of the dealer hand being all red, the dealer hand being all black, the dealer hand totaling an even number, the dealer hand totaling an odd number, the dealer hand consisting of two cards, the dealer hand consisting of three cards, the dealer hand consisting of four cards, the dealer's hand consisting of five cards, the dealer's hand consisting of six cards, and the dealer's hand consisting of seven cards, as claimed in independent Claims 14, 15, 28, 29, and 33-35.

Applicant therefore submits that independent Claims 14, 15, 28, 29, and 33-35 are allowable over the cited prior art. As each of these independent claims is allowable, Applicant submits that Claims 2, 6, 9, 22, 23, and 25-27 which depend from allowable Claim 33, Claims 11-13, which depend from allowable Claim 37, and Claims 16-20, which depend from allowable Claim 15, are each likewise allowable.

For all of the above reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the claims now pending patentability distinguish the present invention from the cited references. Accordingly,

Tony A. CRANFORD  
Docket No.: 026066-00003

Serial No.: 09/977,282

reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and an issuance of a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner determine that any further action is necessary to place this application into better form, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned representative at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

Arent Fox Kintner Plotkin & Kahn, PLLC



Wilburn L. Chesser  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration No. 41,668

**Customer No. 004372**  
1050 Connecticut Ave., N.W.  
Suite 400  
Washington, D.C. 20036-5339  
Telephone No. (202) 715-8434  
Facsimile No. (202) 638-4810

WC/klf

188070\_1.DOC